

TAB

TAB B

25X1A

SYNOPSIS OF REMARKS BY [REDACTED]

25X1A 1. [REDACTED] opened his talk by observing how much of his time is spent these days on management and administrative matters. He mentioned how closely he now works with the DDS and key members of his staff. He recalled the status of Support in his early experiences [REDACTED]. In those days he was his own Communicator and Support Officer and had to pretty much devise his own system. Fortunately, with help he received from some sympathetic Support personnel at Headquarters, he came out all right--in fact he was surprised to learn that he had shortchanged himself in salary. He related these experiences to those now going on in the undeveloped areas where one-man Stations or Bases, in some cases outposts, exist in considerable number. These people need all the help they can get in simplifying the procedures which will permit them to be administrators without infringement on their operational effectiveness. He recognizes that we must work closely together, but hopes that we would constantly try to reduce to the minimum the amount of time these individuals have to spend on Support procedural matters. He reiterated his backing of the so-called "check book" type financial procedure for small Stations currently under consideration.

2. Hope was expressed that perhaps in this Conference we could help bring about further improvements in things like vehicles and housing on which he is constantly called on to approve special exceptions. He also seconded Col. White's theme of the continuing need to maintain flexibility in these matters, since situations differ between the various Stations. In effecting this flexibility, [REDACTED] pointed out the "philosophical dilemma" which faces the Support Officer in that, while he must administer regulations within their spirit, they must remain flexible by trying to accommodate the regulations to the peculiar demands of the Clandestine Services. He also observed that we had come a long way in bettering the administration of the Agency over the past 10 or 12 years. He expressed thanks to the "Support Directorate" for not allowing our administrative procedures and regs to go in an old line direction.

3. Having said this, however, he continued by mentioning a concern which he characterized as representative of the CS, that there is a trend toward more and more restriction of the flexibility of the CS. He said that neither he nor the other observers could be too specific, but he mentioned as one example the need for senior approval for the switching of personnel within components. He was concerned that if the CS continued

25X1A

to "live with these changes" it might become a very sterile organization within fifteen years or so. He reiterated the value of the individual operator and the contribution he has made and is still making. He implied that even in the day of more technical and unusual collection modes we should not de-emphasize the value or the contribution of the CS operator.

25X1A

4. In summarizing, [REDACTED] again pointed out the need for a joint effort in order to make the CS more flexible and more effective. He said they needed the help of, and relied heavily on, Support Officers especially in the Field. He also mentioned the need for increased attention to the preservation of operational and personnel security and concluded by making a flattering comparison of the Agency's Support personnel to that of other Government Agencies.